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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,197	09/25/2003	Kai-Uwe Patz	2769	6378

7590 03/22/2007
STRIKER, STRIKER & STENBY
103 East Neck Road
Huntington, NY 11743

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, QUYNH H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2614

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/22/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/671,197	Applicant(s) PATZ ET AL.	
	Examiner Quynh H. Nguyen	Art Unit 2614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 2/23/04 received. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graiger et al. (U.S. Patent 6,717,382) in view of Bialick et al. (U.S. Patent 6,003,135).

As to claims 1 and 18, Graiger et al. teaches the steps of:

a plurality of the participating devices (Fig. 3, 2);

a communication line connecting the participating devices with each other (Fig. 3; col. 7, line 66 through col.8, line 8), and

one or more connection devices (col. 8, lines 15-23) for connecting and interface device for communication with a corresponding one of the participating devices, the corresponding participating device being defined as associated with the one or more

connection devices, the one or more connection devices being connected with the communication line (col. 8, lines 24-51).

Graiger et al. does not teach the connection devices comprise readable means for identification of the corresponding participating device defined as associated with the one or more connection devices, wherein the readable means is readable by the interface device connectable to the one or connection devices.

Bialick et al. teaches the connection devices (host device) comprise readable means for identification of the corresponding participating device defined as associated with the one or more connection devices (Fig. 5, 504; col. 12, lines 1-4), wherein the readable means is readable by the interface device connectable to the one or connection devices (col. 12, lines 1-16).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Bialick into the teachings of Graiger for the purpose of identifying the type of the participating device can further be adapted to enable provision of the information to a connection device in response to the connection device fro information regarding the type of the device of which the security module is part, as discussed by Bialick (col. 5, lines 20-27).

As to claims 2-4, Bialick et al. teaches a local network is an Ethernet / IP network including the participating devices (col. 17, lines 1-12).

As to claim 5, Graiger et al. teaches the communication line is a data line (col. 7, line 67 through col. 8, line 14).

As to claims 6-7 and 24-25, Graiger et al. teaches the interface device is an operating and display unit and is a portable terminal (col. 6, lines 33-42; col. 11, lines 2-6).

As to claim 8, Graiger et al. teaches the participating devices comprise control means for controlling at least one machine and/or robot unit (col. 5, lines 56-60).

As to claim 9, Graiger et al. teaches the one or more connection devices are connected to the corresponding participating device, which is defined as associated with the one or more connection devices, with the communication line for communication with one or more terminals (Fig. 3).

As to claims 10-11 and 19, Bialick et al. teaches the readable means for identification of the corresponding participating device defined as associated with the one or more respective connection device is a programmable controller is a microcontroller (col. 9, lines 62-64 col. 12, lines 5-16).

As to claims 12-13 and 20-21, Graiger et al. teaches the programmable controller is connectable and readable by means of a separate connecting line is a separate serial connecting wire provided in the one or more respective connection device (col. 9, lines 51-60).

As to claim 14, Graiger et al. teaches the memory controller comprises a memory element for storage of identification information and the programmable controller is programmable during a configuration stage by the interface device (col. 12, lines 17-36).

As to claims 15 and 22, Graiger et al. teaches one or more connection devices comprises a safety line that connects the participating device directly with the interface device connected to the one or more respective connection devices (col. 10, lines 3-4).

As to claims 16 and 23, Graiger and Bialick do not explicitly teach the connection comprise a voltage supply line for supplying voltage to the interface device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the above mentioned feature into the teachings of Graiger and Bialick for the purpose of having a more efficient system by providing power supply from the connection devices to the interface device in case of emergency or power outage.

Claims 17 and 27 are rejected for the same reasons discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 4.

Claim 26 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 9-10.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Truong et al. (U.S. Patent 7,181,236) teaches systems and methods for using a wireless modem card.

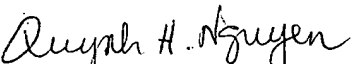
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quynh H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-

7489. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 6:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on 571-272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

qhn


Quynh H. Nguyen
March 19, 2007